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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

NO. 1

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY

USSR/Iran

DATE DISTR.

8 Jan. 1951

SUBJECT

Soviet Activity along the Iranian Border

NO. OF PAGES

5

PLACE ACQUIRED

25X1C 25X1A RETURN TO SIN

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

DATE OF INFO.

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The following is a summary of Soviet border activities during the period 20-25 December 1950, except as noted.

1. Pol Dasht

21-22 December

Rail Traffic

(report for two days)

16 trains composed of 42 passenger cars, 20 tank cars, 132 closed cars, and 35 cars carrying wood, 10 carrying lumber, three carrying stone, 10 carrying coal, eight carrying iron, two carrying trucks, and one carrying autos. (Direction not given)

23 December

Rail Traffic

13 trains composed of 79 passenger cars, 47 tank cars, 74 closed cars, and 17 cars carrying lumber, five carrying coal, six carrying iron, two carrying stone, seven carrying autos, six carrying freight, and 21 carrying 42 autos. (Direction not given.)

24 December

Rail Traffic

Bight trains composed of 14 passenger cars, 33 tank cars, 93 closed cars and seven cars carrying lumber, seven carrying sand, nine carrying coal, four carrying cases, and 32 carrying foodstuffs. (Direction not given.)

night

Four trains of unknown make-up. (Direction not given.)

25 December

Rail Traffic
Six trains composed of 22 passenger cars, 29
tank cars, 80 covered cars, and 17 cars carrying planks, 13 carrying wood, two carrying trucks, five carrying sand, and two carrying iron materials. (Direction not given)

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night

Four trains of unknown make-up. (Direction

not given.)

2. Dzhulfa

20-21 December

(report for two days)

Rail Traffic

Ten trains composed of 28 passenger cars, six tank cars, 65 roofed (sic) cars, 29 gondolas, and 30 gondolas carrying coal, four carrying lumber and one truck, and three

locomotives. (Direction not given)

night

21 trains of unknown make-up. (Direction not

given)

20-21 December

Firing exercises at Dzhulfa

22 December

Rail Traffic

Six trains composed of 28 passenger cars, 64 roofed (sic) cars, 19 tank cars; and 61 gondolas carrying 64 autos, 79 trucks and some coal and lumber. (Direction not given)

night

Wine trains, breakdown unavailable. (Direct-

ion not given)

23 December

Rail Traffic

Eight trains composed of 28 passenger cars, 139 roofed (sic) cars, 55 tank cars, 17 gondolas; and 25 gondolas carrying three motors, eight barrels, coal and white earth. One locomotive was also included. (Direction not given)

not given)

night

Ten trains, breakdown unknown. (Direction

not given.)

24 December

Rail Traffic

Six trains composed of 28 passenger cars, 47 freight cars, one flatcar, 20 cars carrying carts and lumber, and 10 gondolas carrying one truck. (Direction

not given.)

night

Eight trains, breakdown unknown. (Direction not given.)

3. Sia Rud

20-21 December

Rail Traffic

(report for two days)

Ten trains composed of 56 passenger cars, 190 covered cars, 68 freight cars, 29 tank cars, 45 empty gondolas, and 33 gondolas carrying wooden posts, 22 autos and five trucks. Two locomotives were also included.

(Direction not given)

22 December

Rail Traffic

Three trains composed of 28 passenger cars and 39 tank cars. (Direction not given)

23 December

Rail Traffic

Four trains composed of 28 passenger cars, 34 covered cars, two tank cars, and 44 emoty gondolas. Two locomotives were also included.

(Direction not given)

24 December

Rail Traffic

Five trains composed of 27 passenger cars.

95 freight cars, 68 covered cars, 25 tank cars
nine empty gondolas, and 24 gondolas carrying one
crane, two autos and two carloads of posts. Four
locomotives were also included. (Direction not given.)

24 December 0500 hours One truck load of soldiers replaced the members Approved For Release 2001/08/05e: 6444 RDR82e90457R406740290010-0

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Khuda Afarin 20-21 December (report for two days) Rail Traffic Seven trains composed of 26 passenger cars, 159 freight cars, 28 tank cars, one car carrying iron, 12 gondolas carrying wood, and 34 gondolas carrying cases, four autos, two trucks and tools. (Direction not given)

22 December

Rail Traffic Three trains composed of 14 passenger cars, 32 freight cars, eight gondolas, eight cars carrying autos, two carrying lumber, 32 gondolas carrying boxes and 12 carrying bricks, iron material and two carloads of autos. (Direction not given)

Namin ·

Mortar practice and active patrolling in the area of Namin.

21 December

Patrol activity in the area of Namin.

21 December

One cart observed moving from Gaduk to Sholecheran. One jeep moving from Kaluz (Kalus?) village to Kaluz post.

22 December

Road Traffic

Two carts arrived at Farzi-Kand from the post

at Qishlag.

Routine patrol activity in the area.

Ten soldiers were engaged in rifle target practice at the Kaluz post.

Machine gun firing practice took place at Mallayurd (not located).

23 December

Road Traffic

One jeep observed moving from Gaduk toward

Sholecheran.

One truck carrying foodstuffs arrived at the

post at Omstomnok.

24 December

Road Traffic

One jeep observed moving from Gaduk toward

Omstomnok,

One jeep at the post at Anburdedrenh (not located) from the direction of Gaduk.

Astara 21 December

Road Traffic

North and southbound between Astara and Lenkoran: 6 jeeps, 3 ambulances, 3 trucks and five carts carrying 12 officers, 122 armed soldiers, 37 civilians, big boxes, lumber, kerosene tins, and a radio transmitter.

East and westbound between Astara and Masjed Mahalleh: 3 jeeps, 28 trucks and 22 carts carrying 4 officers, 193 armed and 26 unarmed soldiers, ll civilians, foodstuffs, telephone

wire, lumber, firewood, and empty bags. A

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group of soldiers on foot were also observed,

Between Masjed Mahalleh and the post under observation farthest west: 16 trucks and 14 carts carrying 3 officers, 26 armed and 90 unarmed soldiers, 63 civilians, timber, and foodstuffs. One group of armed foot soldiers and 5 armed soldiers on horselack.

Soviet gun boat anchored off Astara. 15 boats fished at sea off Astara.

night

3 white rockets fired by Soviets at Astara.

Eight white rockets were fired at Astara and Rudkinar and Masjed Mahalleh.

Search lights were active in the Astara area.

23 December

Road Traffic
North and southbound between Astara and Lenkoran:
3 jeeps, 2 ambulances, 12 trucks and 3 carts
carrying 4 officers, 66 armed and 6 unarmed
soldiers, and some sand.

East and westbound between Astara and Masjed Mahalleh: 22 trucks and 11 carts carrying two officers, 111 armed soldiers, 19 civilians, foodstuffs, telephone wire, firewood, and stone. Two groups of armed foot soldiers and two of

Two groups of armed foot soldiers and two of armed soldiers on horseback were also observed.

Between Masjed Mahalleh and the post under observation farthest west: 1 jeep, 3 motorcycles, 6 trucks and 22 carts carrying 4 officers, 28 armed and 48 unarmed soldiers, 29 civilians and barbed wire.

0600 hours

5 green and white rockets were fired at the post at Korpi (not located)

1800-1900 hours

Searchlights were active in the area of Astara

night

Two white rockets were fired at the post at Rudkinar.

24 December

Road Traffic
North and southbound between Astara and
Lenkoran: 4 jeeps and 12 trucks carrying 2
officers, 67 armed soldiers, lime, lumber, and
cand. Two groups of foot soldiers were also
observed.

East and westbound between Astara and Masjed Mahalleh: 19 trucks and 2 carts carrying 6 officers, 28 armed and 216 unarmed soldiers, and 65 civilians.

Between Masjed Manualleh and the post under observation farthest west: 2 jeeps, 1 motor-cycle, 9 trucks and 8 carts carrying 5 officers, 113 armed and 11 unarmed soldiers, and 43 civilians. One group of unarmed foot soldiers and two officers on horseback were also observed.

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12 boats fished at sea off Astara.

0500 hours

25 red and green rockets were fired at the post at Rudkinar.

night

Periodic searchlight activity was observed in the area.

25 December

Road Traffic
North and southbound between Astara and Lenkoran:
3 jeeps and an unidentified number of trucks
carrying 11 officers, and 26 armed and 37 unarmed
soldiers. One group of armed infantrymen and one
portable wireless set were also observed.

East and westbound between Astara and Nasjed Mahalleh: 3 jeeps, 1 motorcycle, 11 trucks and 7 carts carrying 2 officers, and 86 armed and 79 unarmed soldiers. One group of armed infantry men and one group of unarmed cavalrymen were also observed.

Between Masjed Mahalleh and the post under observation farthest west: 8 trucks and 8 carts carrying 1 officer, 50 armed soldiers, 16 civilians, foodstuffs, and kerosene drums. Eight armed cavalrymen and 16 unarmed infantrymen were also observed.

1400 hours

Two white rockets were fired at the posts at Rudkinar.

night

Periodic searchlight activity was observed in the Astara area.

7. Lutfabad
17-22 December
(report for five days)

Rail Traffic Westbound, Kaakha to Ashkhabad: 25 trains composed of 213 passenger cars, 560 tank cars, and 185 freight cars of which 14 were empty, 20 carried wood, 14 carried autos, and the remainder were covered .

Eastbound, Ashkhabad to Kaakha: 23 trains composed of 153 passenger cars, 285 tank cars, and 360 freight cars of which 26 carried autos, 24 carried wood, 9 carried coal, 27 ware empty and the remainder were covered.

East and west-bound between Kaakha and Ashkhabad: 51 other trains, breakdown unavailable.